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SIPDIS

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TAGS: [NATO](#) [PREL](#) [MARR](#) [AF](#) [UZ](#)  
SUBJECT: Uzbekistan on Afghanistan Contributions

REF: 09 STATE 31102; STATE 29482

CLASSIFIED BY: Nicholas Berliner, Pol-Econ Chief; REASON: 1.4(B), (D)

¶1. (C) Charge and P-E Chief delivered points on Afghanistan contributions to Uzbek MFA Americas head Tahir Mamadjanov on April 20:

Electrical Transmission: Mamadjanov noted that electricity supply to Afghanistan is proceeding without any problems. (Note: Uzbekistan currently supplies 75 MW and is constructing a second 75 MW line.)

Agriculture and Water: Mamadjanov said that Uzbek experts had worked successfully in Afghanistan for many years and that there is a large reserve of experience in the country. He asked for more specific information on how such cooperation would be structured, but seemed to view this favorably and as an area where Uzbekistan could potentially do more.

Termez Border Capacity: The view in Uzbekistan is that Hairaton, not Termez, is the chokepoint for cargo from Uzbekistan to Afghanistan. Mamadjanov repeated this.

OSCE Border Training: The GOU keeps cooperation with OSCE extremely circumscribed. Mamadjanov did not address the question directly, but said that bilateral cooperation through EXBS on border security was very positive.

¶2. (C) Comment: In our judgment, engaging the GOU in the area of agriculture and water management has the greatest chance for success. Not only do the Uzbeks have experience in this field, but it is less sensitive and therefore more apt to elicit a positive response if we come back to them with concrete proposals for assistance. Significant cooperation within the OSCE framework is unlikely, as the GOU has limited its engagement with nearly all multi-lateral institutions and continues to view the OSCE's work in the country with a great deal of skepticism. On capacity at the Termez border, potential problems there should become more apparent as the volume of NDN cargo ramps up. We should monitor this closely and, if capacity does prove to be insufficient, press the Uzbeks with specific recommendations for improvements.  
BUTCHER